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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 379  
By Ridgeway

A RESOLUTION To honor and congratulate John Hudson of Paris upon his exemplary football career, including winning the 2000 NFL Championship and Super Bowl XXXV with the Baltimore Ravens.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those outstanding native sons who have reached the pinnacle of their respective professions; and

WHEREAS, John Hudson is a highly motivated and talented young man who has brought pride and excitement to his home of Paris, Henry County, and the Volunteer State; and

WHEREAS, John Hudson has been playing football since 1981, and through his dedication, commitment, diligent practice, and superior performance, he has achieved a unique level of success; and

WHEREAS, He began his football career with the Blue Devils at Grove Junior High School in 1981 and was voted "Best Defensive Lineman"; and

WHEREAS, He continued his career by playing at Henry County High School from 1982 through 1985, winning such prestigious awards as District 10 Player of the Year; he was

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selected to play in the Tennessee-Kentucky All-Star Game and was named First Team All-State Lineman and Lions' Club Most Valuable Player; and

WHEREAS, He was elected team captain for the undefeated Henry County Patriots, while playing under the guidance of Coach James Counce; and

WHEREAS, He continued his football career at the collegiate level with the Auburn Tigers from 1986 through 1989, playing for three Southeastern Conference Champions; he also played in four major bowl games, earned All-American honors from *The Sporting News* and All SEC honors as a senior, received the Ken Rice Award for Best Blocking Lineman, and was selected to participate in the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Senior Bowl Game; and

WHEREAS, John Hudson ascended to play the highest level of football, the National Football League, as a rookie with the Philadelphia Eagles in 1990; and

WHEREAS, He has forged a distinguished 11-year career in the NFL as an offensive lineman and long-snapper on special teams; and

WHEREAS, John played with the Philadelphia Eagles from 1990-95 and the New York Jets from 1996-99; for the 2000 season, he joined the Baltimore Ravens and was an important part of their march to the NFL Championship; and

WHEREAS, John Hudson is, so far, the only Henry County resident to have played in the "ultimate football event" of the Super Bowl; his meritorious efforts contributed significantly to the Ravens' Super Bowl XXXV victory; and

WHEREAS, The son of Richard S. Hudson and Glynda Ross Hudson of Paris, Tennessee, John is the brother of Mary Kate Hudson, Ross Hudson and the late Todd Hudson; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his parents and siblings, John is fortunate to share love and companionship with his lovely wife, Ginny Long Hudson and their 3-year-old daughter, Celia; the Hudsons are also anxiously awaiting the birth of a new daughter in May 2001; and

WHEREAS, Through his athletic prowess and commitment to excellence, John Hudson has reached the acme of the football world as a Super Bowl Champion, and he should be appropriately recognized by this Body; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor Paris and Henry County resident and Tennessee native John Hudson upon his exemplary football career, congratulate him on winning the 2001 NFL Championship and Super Bowl XXXV with the Baltimore Ravens, and wish him and his family all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.